Transfer of Tha Bigha to Bangladesh.

*133. SHRl JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased *to* state:

(a) the latest position with regard *to* proposed transfer of Tin Bigha area of West Bengal to Bangladesh; and

4b) whether Govemment are aware ot Ub public agitation against the proposal and in what manner Government would protect the safety and other interests of She Indian population likely to be eflec ted by the proposed transfer of the Tin Maha area or permitting it to be wed b\ Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Government is committed to the teasing of Tin Bigha to Bangladesh in pursuance of our earlier agreements with Bangladesh. This commitment was reiterated during the recent visit of the Bangladesh Foreign Minister to India from 26—29 August, 1991. Necessary measures are underway to complete the required foralities for an early leasing of the corridor.

(b) Yes, Sir. Some residents of Kucbliteari, an area to the south of the Tin Bigha, have expressed apprehensions about their area becoming an enclave once the lease is put into effect. However, sach fears are misplaced because the sovereignty over the corridor will continue to vest ia India and the residents of Kuchlibari as also Indian officials and law enforcing agencies will continue to have the right of free and unfettered movement in the leased area tn either direction. The interests of the Indian population have thus been folly protected

Robberies in South Delhi

134. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRf be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that day light robberies in Soutf Delhi, have been taking place for the last two years and police have not been able to check the same;

(b) what are the details of such cases during the last two years and the number of cases in which the police have been able to arrest the culprits; and

(c) the number of cases which terminated in deaths and what are the details of such cases in Vasant Kunj area?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The number of cases of daylight robberies in South and Sou'a West Districts of Delhi during the last two years and upto 15th August, 1991, the number of persons arrested and the number of cases instituted in the court are as[1] follows:

Year	Number of cases	Number of persons arrested	Number of cases instituted in the court
1989	39	54	21
1990	27	50	18
1991 (upto 15th August, 1991)	29	47	6

(c) There were 9 cases which terminated in death. Two of these cases occurred in Vasant Kunj area. In one of eases of Vasant Kunj area, two persons iave been arrested and the ease instituted in the court. The other case relating to Vasant Kunj area could not be worked out so far.

Unntilisation of P&T fonds for expansion of Postal Services

*135. SHRI VTREN T. SHAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

Cal whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item entitl-

ed 75 per cent P&T fands unutilised : CAG appiearipg in. the dady Financial Express Bombay' dated the 5th August, 91, indicating that the Postal Department had not utilised 75 per cent of the furids made available during the Seventh Plan for expansion of postal services in rural areas;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that only 3007 new Post Offices were opened during the period 1985—89 against the targetted 6000;

(c) if so, whether Government have made any analysis of the factors for not achieving the target, especially when funds were already ear-marked for the programmes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) A news item *to* this effect has come to Government's notice.

(b) A reference to this effect has been made in the C&AG Report on the Department o(E Posts for the year 1989-90. However, during the Seventh Five Year Plan 4371 Post Offices were sanctioned as against the target of 6000. The difference between the number of post offices sanctioned and the number of post offices actually opened is largely diu to the time lag between these two activities.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The shortfall in the target of 6000 fixed for the 7th Plan was due mainly to the ban on creation of posts and time consuming procedure obtaining then for opening of post offices. As a result of this ban, during the first two years of the Seventh Plan namely, 1985-86 and 1986-87 only 25 post offices could be opened. Subsequently when some relaxation was announced by the Government in this regard, the pace of sanctioning of post ofl-ces got accelerated.

Overcrowding in Tlhar Jail

*136. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased *to* state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tihar Jail is overcrowded; and

(b) if so, what, action Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To augment jail capacity three more barracks, which will accommodate 300 inmates, are being added to existing jail No. 3 in the Tihar Jail Complex. The Delhi Administration has also approved a proposal to construct two new jails which will accommodate 1400 inmates.

Target fixed for providing telephone connections to Villages

*137. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed a target to provide at least one telephone connection to every village within a time frame;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) the number of villages in the State of Madhya Pradesh which have so far been provided with elephone connections; and

(d) by when Government propose to provide telephone connections to rest of the villages in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDE PENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MIN ISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Around 5.7 lakh villages are li kely to be covered in the country for telephone facility by 2000 AD.

(c) Telephone facility has been extended *to* 4305 villages in the State of Madhya Pradesh so far.

(d) By 2006 AD.